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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/526,848	09/29/2005	Ling Wang	US02 0306 US	9363

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EXAMINER	
TRINH, TAN H	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2618	
MAIL DATE	**DELIVERY MODE**
07/31/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/526,848	WANG, LING	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TAN TRINH	2618	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02 May 2008*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *03 March 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mosebrook (U.S. Patent No. 5, 905,442) in vie of Haupt (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0042282).

Regarding claims 1 and 11, Mosebrook teaches a lighting control network (10), comprising: a remote control unit (20, 40) having a RF signal transmitter and a RF signal receiver (see fig. 1, remote control unit (20, 40) with two way RF link, and antenna 24 and TX/RX, col. 11, lines 36-39); and a plurality of lighting control units (50, or 20, 30 and 40, col. 11, lines 65-col. 12, lines 5), each of the lighting control units having a RF signal transmitter, a RF signal receiver, and a lighting unit (50) associated therewith (see fig. 1, col. 65-col. 12, lines 34), wherein the remote control unit and the plurality of lighting control units are configured in a master-slave oriented network (see fig. 1-2, col. 12, lines 35-49), one of the plurality of lighting control units and the remote control unit being configured as a master (20 and 30) in the network and remaining lighting control units of the plurality of lighting units and the remote control unit being configured as slaves (40 and 50) in the network (see fig. 1 and 9, col. 12, lines 2-11, col. 16, lines 46-col. 17, lines 5), and the plurality of lighting control units and the remote control unit communicating bi-directionally with each other via a RF wireless link (see fig. 1, 9, 23-27. two way RF link, and antennas 24, 209, 326, 409 and 526, TX/RX, col. 11, lines 65-col. 12, lines

11, and col. 32, lines 3-14 and abstract lines 1-22). In this case, the Remote control unit 20 can be configured as a master and the remote control 40 can be configured as a slave or repeater. That is obvious the both control unit as master and as a slave.

Moerover, the related art Haupt teaches the master remote unit (1) (central unit 1), and plurality of mobile apparatus 4-9 (slave) which are in the form of transmitting and/or receiving devices and which in part transmit data and/or signals to the central unit (1) (master unit), The mobile apparatus 4-9 each have a respective control module equipped with transmitting and/or receiving functionality, for direct or in-direct bidirectional communication with each other, and can be central controlled by the master central unit. In this case, the central control unit is a mater remote control, the mobile apparatus 4-9 control units is a slave remote control, since each of slave remote control 4-9 can bidirectional communication with each other with comman by the central control unit (see fig. 1, Master remote control (1) communication on command to the remote control slave (10), than the remote control (10) communication with other control unit 6 and 6, see page 2-3, sections [0029-0033]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify above teaching of Mosebrook with Haupt, in order to provide directly or indirectly controlled by the central unit (master unit) (see suggested by Haupt on page 2, section [0029]).

Regarding claims 2 and 12, Mosebrook teaches a sensor for sensing a parameter and transmitting a status of the parameter to the master (see col. 29, lines 36-46 and col. 33, lines 60-col. 34, lines 9). In this case, the sensors communications with the master stations.

Regarding claims 3 and 13, Mosebrook teaches the sensor is selected from the group consisting of: an ambient light sensor, a motion sensor, an occupancy sensor, a temperature sensor, and a combination thereof (see occupancy sensor on col. 34, lines 1-4).

Regarding claims 4 and 14, Mosebrook teaches the sensor communicates via a RF wireless link with the master (see col. 33, lines 60-col. 34, lines 13). In this case, the sensor communicates via a RF wireless link with the master, since the control lighting fixtures remotely without rewiring, and the occupancy sensor input/output device communication with master with RF signal.

Regarding claims 5 and 15, Mosebrook teaches the master (20 and 30) is one of the plurality of lighting control units and controls the lighting unit associated therewith in response to receiving the status of the parameter (see fig. 1, abstract lines 1-22, and col. 1, lines 35-50).

Regarding claims 6 and 16, Mosebrook teaches a user interface control on the remote control unit is associated with at least one of the plurality of lighting control units (see col. 2, lines 1-30, and col. 33, lines 60-67). In this case, the remote control unit is associated with at least one of the plurality of lighting control units interface on the user program and control interface with wall outlet or power socket and repeater, and also interface with other electrically operated devices, security system, HVAC systems, PC's, motor appliances, TV, phone lines audio visual systems. e.g.., that is the user interface control on the remote unit.

Regarding claims 7 and 17, Mosebrook teaches the slaves (50 and 40) communicate directly with the master (20) via RF wireless communication (see fig. 1, the slaves (50 and 40) communicate directly with the master (20) via two way RF link wireless communication).

Regarding claims 8 and 18, Mosebrook teaches a central control master (30) for interfacing multiple instances of the lighting control network together (see fig. 9, col. 16, lines 64-col. 17, lines 5).

Regarding claims 9 and 19, Mosebrook teaches the network combines a RF communication protocol and a lighting control protocol (fig. 18, col.24, lines 44-65). In this case, the communication protocol is between mater and slave or repeater and the assignment command on-off status bit map is the lighting control protocol.

Regarding claims 10 and 20, Mosebrook teaches a mechanism (30 and 40) for selecting back-up to the master (20) (see fig. 1 and 9, col. 11, lines 39-53, and col. 12, lines 1-11, and col. 57-col. 17, lines 5). In this case, the second mater (30) or the repeater (40) can be back-up controller for master 20 to controlling the system.

Conclusion

3. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, (for Technology Center 2600 only)

*Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window (now located at the **Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314).***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tan Trinh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7888. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiners supervisor, Anderson, Matthew D., can be reached at (571) 272-4177.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **(571) 273-8300**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the **Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office** whose telephone number is **(703) 306-0377**.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tan H. Trinh
Division 2618
July 25, 2008

/TAN TRINH/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2618
07-25-2008